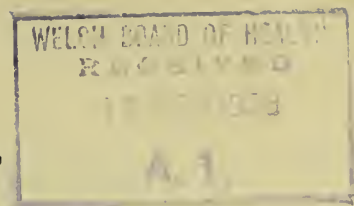


*W. J. J. J.*



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**FOR THE YEAR 1937.**

**RHAYADER.**

To the Chairman and Gentlemen of the Rhayader Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year, 1937.

Area in Acres	...	...	91,240
Estimated Population, mid 1937 (Resident)	...	...	4,512
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	1,261
Rateable Value	..	...	£114,814
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	£481-12-6

The District is Agricultural, and Occupation is not a factor in the causation of ill-health.

**Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.**

**LIVE BIRTHS—**

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	33	28	61
Illegitimate	...	3	1	4
		—	—	—
		36	29	65

**BIRTH RATE :—**14.4 per 1,000 population.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales covering the same period was 14.9.

**STILL BIRTHS—**

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	2	2	4
Illegitimate	...	0	0	0
		—	—	—
		2	2	4

Birth Rate per 1000 (including Live and Still Births) 15.29.

**DEATHS—**

	Male	Female	Total
	37	31	68

**DEATH RATE.—**15.07 per 1000 population—

The Death Rate for England and Wales for the same period was 12.4 per 1000.

**CAUSES OF DEATH.**

Influenza	...	...	1	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	6	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	0	1
Cancer	...	...	6	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	..	..	2	3
Heart Disease	..	...	8	16
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	1	0
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	5	0
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, &c.	...	...	1	0
Senility	...	...	1	2
Suicide	...	...	3	1
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	2	0
			—	—
Total			37	31

There were no deaths from Puerperal Causes during the Year.

DEATHS OF INFANTS under 1 year of age—

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	1	0	1
Illegitimate	...	0	0	0
		<hr/> 1	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 1

DEATH RATE of Infants under 1 year of age—

All Infants per 1,000 live Births	...	—	15.38
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births			16.39
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births			Nil

There were 9 deaths from Cancer.

There were no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough.

No deaths occurred during the year from Diarrhoea amongst children under two years of age.

## SECTION B.

### General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Public Health Officers of the Authority :—

One District Medical Officer of Health (part time), who also performs the duties of Public Vaccinator.

One Sanitary Inspector (part time)

### Laboratory Facilities.

No change has been made during the year.

### Ambulance Facilities.

No alteration in the arrangement for the transport of cases by ambulance has been made.

No Ambulance for the moving of Infectious Cases is available in the district.

### Nursing in the Home.

No change has been made in the Nursing Services of the district during the past year.

### Clinics and Treatment Centres.

No New Clinics or Treatment Centres available to the inhabitants of this District, apart from those already existing, have been opened during the year.

### Hospitals.

No change in the Hospital accommodation for the area has been made during the year.

## SECTION C.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.—The water supplied to Rhayader has been satisfactory both as to quality and quantity.

Two samples of water for bacteriological examination were taken during the year. One of these from the cistern of the Newbridge Water Supply proved satisfactory ; the other from a spring near a farm-house in Doldowlod showed contamination.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The Sewerage System which serves the central portion of Rhayader is not satisfactory.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—No action in regard to pollution has been taken during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—There were 433 Closets of the water carriage system, and 16 of the conservancy type at the end of the year.

Two of the latter were converted into the former type.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.—No change in the arrangements for Public Cleansing were made during the year.

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector of the Rural District of Rhayader for the year ended 31st of December, 1937.

Complaints investigated	...	No. 11	No. found polluted	...	No. 1
Letters written	...	2	No. of Wells repaired	...	Nil
NUISANCES.			No. of Wells cleansed	...	Nil
No. of visits re Nuisances	...	11	No. of houses connected to main supply	...	433
No. of visits re works in progress	...	Nil	INFECTIOUS DISEASES.		
Notices issued :			No. of enquiries	...	6
(a) Informal	...	2	No. of cases removed to Isolation Hospital	...	5
(b) Statutory	...	9	No. of houses disinfected	...	5
Notices outstanding	...	Nil	Bedding and clothing disinfected	...	5
Legal proceedings taken	...	Nil	No. of houses disinfected in connection with fleas, lice, etc.	...	Nil
HOUSING.			HOUSE DRAINAGE.		
FOOD PREPARING PLACES.			No. laid or relaid	...	3
No. of inspections	...	25	No. cleansed, trapped, ventilated	...	3
SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, etc.			Spouting, waterpipes, sinks, etc. rectified	...	Nil
No. registered or licensed	...	9	No. of cesspools cleansed	...	1
No. of inspections	...	16	No. of cesspools repaired	...	Nil
No. of voluntary surrenders of carcasses or part of a carcase on account of--			WATER CLOSETS.		
(a) Tuberculosis	...	Nil	No. provided	...	433
(b) Other diseases	...	Nil	No. unapproved repaired	...	Nil
No. of voluntary surrenders of other unsound food	...	Nil	BAKE-HOUSES.		
No. of seizures of unsound food	...	Nil	No. registered	...	7
COWSHEDS.			No. of inspections	...	12
No. of persons registered	...	49	WORKSHOPS.		
No. of Inspections	...	54	No. registered	...	21
Stables and Piggeries	...	10	No. of Inspections	...	17
No. of Inspections	...	15	SCAVENGING.		
DAIRIES.			No. of privies emptied	} Town collection twice weekly.	
No. of persons registered	...	49	No. of ashpits emptied		
No. of Inspections	...	54	No. of cesspools emptied		
MILK SHOPS.			No. of accumulations of refuse removed		
No. of persons registered	...	Nil	PRIVIES, ASHPITS.		
No. of inspections	...	Nil	No. of new	...	Nil
LODGING HOUSES.			No. repaired	...	Nil
No. of persons registered	...	Nil	No. converted to W.C's.	...	2
OFFENSIVE TRADES.			No. converted to Pail Closets	...	Nil
No. registered	...	1	No. converted to Earth Closets	...	Nil
No. of inspections	...	3	Other	...	Nil
WATER SUPPLY.			Total number of inspections made		397
Wells sunk	...	Nil			
No. of samples taken for Chemical Analysis	...	2			

(Signed) F. WORTHING,

Sanitary Inspector.



### **Shops.**

No action, under the Shops Act, 1934, has been taken.

The sanitary arrangements of those premises in the district which come under the classification of factories, workshops and workplaces, have been inspected and found to be satisfactory.

### **Smoke Abatement.**

No action was taken during the year.

### **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public at present existent in the district.

### **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

No premises in the district have been found to be infested by this species of vermin.

### **Schools.**

The sanitary conditions of the schools in the area are for the most part good.

No complaints as to the water supply of any school has been received.

One school has been closed for a short time during the year, owing to Measles. Another school has been closed on two occasions for the same reason. One school has been closed owing to Mumps and Influenza.

## **SECTION D.**

### **Housing.**

#### **1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES during the year—**

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	80
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	113
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925			Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...		Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	Nil

#### **2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES—**

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	...	...	Nil
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#### **3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS during the year—**

(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—			
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	23
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices—			
(a)	By the owners	...	...	23
(b)	By the local authority in default of owners	...	...	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	23
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—			
(a) By the owners	...	...	23
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...	...	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	Nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—			
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	Nil
4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding—			
(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	19
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	19
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	101½
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	Nil
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	6
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	21½
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	Nil

## SECTION E.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### (a) MILK SUPPLY.

The farms and dairies in the district, where milk is produced for sale, have been inspected and found to be in a sanitary condition.

Samples of Milk for examination have been taken by the Sanitary Officer and also by the Inspector of Foods and Drugs.

The reports on the examination of these samples show that in the case of some dealers the bacterial contamination is excessive.

No legal action has been taken against any milk dealer during the year.

No tuberculous person is engaged in the milk trade.

#### (b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

No action has been taken against any vendor of meat or other food.

The slaughter-houses and bakehouses have been inspected and found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle (including Cows)	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ...	224	54	2654	188
Number Inspected ...	224	54	2654	188
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole Carcases condemned. ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the Number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis only, Whole Carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected infected with Tuberculosis ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(c) **ADULTERATION, etc.**

No action has been taken in regard to adulteration of food in the district.

(d) **CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.**

The bacteriological examination of milk samples is carried out at the University College of Wales (Agricultural Department), Aberystwyth.

Samples of food, water and milk can be sent for examination to the County Analyst, The Temple, Dale Street, Liverpool.

(e) **NUTRITION.**

No special effort has been made to spread knowledge in regard to this subject with the exception of the instruction afforded by the Womens' Institutes.

(f) **SHELL-FISH (Molluscan).**

No Shell-fish are produced in the District.

## SECTION F.

### **Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.**

A small number of cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year.

Amongst these were three cases of Pharyngeal Diphtheria.

There were a few outbreaks of Measles, Mumps and Influenza amongst School Children.

Three notices of illness amongst the pupils were received from teachers.

Twenty-seven primary vaccinations were performed by the vaccination officer during the year.



## Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1937.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .. ..	1	1	—
Diphtheria ... ..	3	3	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	2	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	4	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	3	—	—
Other Diseases generally notifiable viz			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	1	1	—
Other Diseases notifiable locally ...	—	—	—

The case of Scarlet Fever was 8 years of age.

The age of the patients suffering from Diphtheria were 13, 15 and 41 years. The fatal case was aged 15 and was a visitor from outside the district.

The cases of Puerperal Fever were aged 29 and 35 years. The cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were aged 20, 22, 26 and 27 years.

The cases of Pneumonia were aged 2, 8 and 17 years.

The case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was aged 6 days.

### (a) PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action was taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, nor under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

### (b) TUBERCULOSIS.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

## New Cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age Periods			New Cases				Deaths			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ... ..			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ... ..			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 ... ..			—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15 ... ..			1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 ... ..			2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
35 ... ..			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 ... ..			—	—	—	1	3	—	—	1
55 ... ..			1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards			—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS			4	4	1	1	6	1	—	1

Out of a total of eight deaths from Tuberculosis two of the fatal cases had not been previously notified.

I have the honour to be, Sirs,

Your Obedient Servant,

H. T. LIPPIATT,

District Medical Officer of Health.

25th August, 1938.

